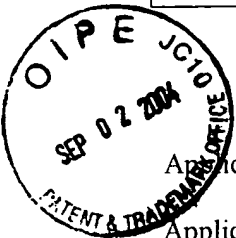


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 30, 2004.
Signed: *Alison E. Giger*
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Attorney Docket No. CISC797
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Carmel Chi Him Lau

Application No.: 09/750,180

Filed: December 29, 2000

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
RESTRICTING THE ASSIGNMENT OF
VLANS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Examiner: Ian N. Moore

Group Art Unit: 2661

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A
FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF
ALLOWANCE (37 CFR 1.97(c))

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these citations of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, or after three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application, whichever event occurred last, but it is believed, before the mailing date of either (1) a final action under §1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c).

If it is determined that any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-1652 (Order No. CISC797).

09/02/2004 MBLAND 00000037 09750180

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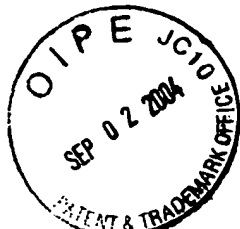
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Respectfully submitted,

Dan H. Lang
Dan H. Lang

Registration No. 38,531

RITTER, LANG & KAPLAN LLP
12930 Saratoga Ave., Suite D1
Saratoga, CA 95070
(408) 446-8690



PTO/SB/08A (06-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2003. OMB 0651-0031
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/750,180
Filing Date	December 29, 2000
First Named Inventor	Carmel Chi Him Lau
Art Unit	2661
Examiner Name	Ian N. Moore
Attorney Docket Number	CISCP797

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-6,757,286	06-29-2004	Stone	
	AB	US-6,515,969	02-04-2003	Smith	
	AC	US-6,338,995	01-15-2002	Hwang et al.	
	AD	US-6,188,694	02-13-2001	Fine et al.	
	AE	US-6,032,194	02-29-2000	Gai et al.	
	AF	US-			
	AG	US-			
	AH	US-			
	AI	US-			
	AJ	US-			
	AK	US-			
	AL	US-			
	AM	US-			
	AN	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

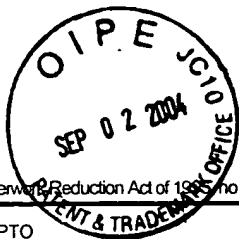
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Application Number	09/750,180
Filing Date	December 29, 2000
First Named Inventor	Carmel Chi Him Lau
Art Unit	2661
Examiner Name	Ian N. Moore
Attorney Docket Number	CISCP797

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	A	LARRY PETERSON et al., "Computer Networks", 2000, Morgan Kaufman Publishers, San Francisco, California, pp. 186-198	
	B	IEEE Standard for Information Technology - Telecommunications and Information Exchange Between Systems - Local and Metropolitan Area Networks - Common Specifications, Part 3: Media Access Control (MAC) Bridges, ANSI/IEEE Std 802.1D, 1998 Edition, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., New York, December 10, 1998, pp. 1-355	
	C	IEEE Standards for Local and Metropolitan Area Networks: Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks, IEEE Std 802.1Q-1998, The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. New York, March 8, 1999, pp. 1-199	
	D		
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